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CONDITIONS.

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RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

From English Publications, just received at the Office of the *Christian Watchman*.

INDIA.—SURAT.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Fyvie to the Secretary, dated March 1, 1822.

My dear Sir,—The present letter will give you an account of the principal occurrences in this place, connected with my labours among the heathen during the past month.

From nine o'clock in the morning to four in the afternoon daily (Sunday excepted) my time is wholly employed in superintending the printing press, and in the translation. This last is very laborious work, both for body and mind, in this trying climate; indeed so much so, that I am fully convinced no person, even of a healthy constitution, can support it long. Poor Mr. Skinner said to me, a few days before he was taken ill of the complaint which terminated his life, "I do not know how you feel in translating; but I feel that it is *wearing away my life*." I am inclined to think that my constitution is much stronger than his; but really I feel myself sometimes ready to sink under the burden. I desire, however, not to complain. I am utterly unworthy to be engaged in so good a work. May I have grace and strength to enable me to complete what is now going forward. Should the Lord be pleased to spare me to finish the translation and printing of the Scriptures, I think I shall be willing to say with Simeon, "Lord, now lettest," &c. &c. In a work so important as giving the word of God to mankind, in addition to literary attainments, I know of no qualifications so necessary as a tender conscience, and a heart right with God.

Feb. 4th. Was much gratified this morning by a visit of the Native who has for some years been very active in giving away Tracts, in assisting in the schools, and in speaking to his countrymen about religion. He requested a supply of Gujaratee New Testaments and tracts, as he intended to visit several of the villages at a considerable distance from Surat. With pleasure I complied with his request, and I pray that the Lord may be with him in his journey. When taking leave, he said, "I go as a pioneer, and you must follow; and I trust you will see that my labours have not been in vain." Glad should I have been to have accompanied him; but cannot leave the work in Surat a single day, unless compelled to do it, until I receive assistance from England.

I may here observe that the Gujaratee Testament is divided into eight parts; and since it has been printed, about 1,000 copies have been given away by us among the people in the city, and in the villages around. About 10,000 Gujaratee Tracts have been given away since the press began work here.

Feb. 5th. Visited the second Native School. The whole number of children in this school is 50—Was much pleased with their progress—heard them before they were dismissed repeat the lessons in our first book. Finding them perfect in the first book, I introduced our second book for children;

it contains the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, a morning and evening hymn, &c. This school is entirely composed of *Dhera* children—that class of Hindoos who eat carrion. All the other Hindoos abhor them, and they always live in districts by themselves. It is the duty of the missionary, I conceive, to teach the people that all castes are on a level in the sight of God; yet in the present state of the people, it is absolutely impossible to mix these people with the children of other castes. We must either teach them in separate schools, or allow them to remain ignorant. The children of all other castes unite together in the schools.

Feb. 6th. Visited the first and third Native schools. In the first are 55 children, and in the third 45; making in the three schools together, 150 children. They may be said to be *Christian Schools* entirely, as every thing of a heathen and superstitious nature has been gradually excluded.

Feb. 7th. Preached in our hired house. In the same street is a heathen temple, by the door of which I pass in going to our house of Christian worship. The idol is a stone of a horrid figure, covered over with a red colour. The house is a dwelling-house, the lower room only is appropriated to the idol. The offerings presented to this idol, are flowers, rice, clarified butter, oil, &c. &c. Prayers are offered up, accompanied with the ringing of bells, beating of drums, and dances; this last is generally performed by girls of infamous character. The whole service is a mere childish ceremony, dishonorable to God, and calculated to pollute the mind. Here no prayers are presented to the One only living and true God; no song of praise to Jehovah is heard; and no instruction that is good for the soul is ever imparted to the people. All is ignorance, folly and spiritual death.

Turning away from this disgusting scene with feelings of pity for the deluded creatures, was happy to find a few persons waiting my arrival. I suppose that about 40 heard the word of the Lord.

Feb. 14th. Nothing this evening but weddings, beating of drums, and flambeaux are to be seen or heard in every part of the city. This being considered a lucky month, parents generally at this time betroth their children. Had little expectation of meeting a congregation when I left home, and less when I reached our preaching house, as there was a wedding next door. However, a few persons being present, I sat down and began reading. Soon after which, the bridegroom arrived with his train, and while their marriage ceremony was celebrating, a considerable part of the company came to hear me. I spoke to them from that interesting passage, "God so loved the world," &c. &c. All faces were new to me, and they seemed surprised to hear a white man speak their language, and much more surprised at what they heard. Gave away a considerable number of tracts, and the company returned to the wedding to eat and to drink I suppose. I fear they were but ill prepared to hear the word—indeed one did not scruple to tell me after the service, that their hearts were more set on their dinner at that time than on hearing the word of the Lord. But we ought to speak the word "in season and out of season."

As my sheet is nearly full, I must here conclude my extracts from my journal; indeed more would be unnecessary, as I could give you little else but a repetition of what I have said. You will learn from the above the state of things here.

In printing the Old Testament, I have advanced to the end of Leviticus, and hope to have the whole of the Pentateuch printed off by the end of next month. I mean to go on with the other parts of the Old Testament as fast as health and strength will permit. Should these be continued,

I hope the whole may be finished in about a year hence. I long for its completion, in order that I may more fully devote myself to the preaching of the Gospel among the heathen. W. FYVIE.

Death of Dr. Taylor.

In the same letter Mr. Fyvie informs the Directors that Dr. Taylor, formerly their missionary, died at Shiraz, in Persia, in the month of Dec. 1821.

PENANG.

The Stupidity and Cruelty of Idolaters

Exemplified in the conduct of the Chinese; extracted from the Journal of Mr. Medhurst, when he resided in Penang.

Jan. 7, 1821.—Walking out, I called at the house of a man, who was engraving an idol; and, on looking round, I perceived his house to be full of the works of his own hands. I could not help feeling a holy indignation at such affronts on the Divine Majesty, to suppose him to be like unto wood and stone, graven by art and man's device. I spoke to him on the folly of trusting to the works of his own hands, but I found him to be nearly as ignorant as the idols he was making. "They that make them are like unto them." He was unable to give any consistent excuse for his folly, acknowledged that he was a mere imitator of others, and was making the idols for his own gain.

On my return, I visited a temple in ruins—the altar neglected, and the god removed. I longed for the time when the shrines of idolatry shall all meet a similar fate. When I enquired why the temple was deserted, I was told very eagerly that the god had selected another spot for his residence in preference to this. I doubted how it was possible for a log of wood to be capable of choice, or to express his desire to others; they said there was no difficulty in either; for when they were carrying the god round the village, in his chair of state, (borne generally by four men only,) on its arrival at the particular spot which the god preferred, the chair suddenly became heavy, and twenty men could not move it thence. My informant said he was not an eye-witness of this circumstance, but he firmly believed it.—What a pity it is that they do not trouble themselves to inquire into the truth or falsehood of such things, before they give an implicit credence to them.

Murder of the Female Infants by the Chinese.

Jan. 18.—A man came for medicine to-day, with whom I conversed awhile privately. I asked him how long he had left China, and whether he ever thought upon his family there. He said he frequently thought on them, and intended next year to return and visit them, for he had three sons, and one daughter who was married. "I had another daughter (he added) but I did not bring her up." "Not bring her up, (said I) what did you do with her?" "I smothered her (said he): this year also I heard by letter that another daughter was born; I sent word to have that smothered also, but the mother has preserved it alive." I was shocked at this speech, and still more at the horrid indifference with which he uttered it. "What, (said I) murder your own children? Do you not shudder at such an act?" "Oh! no, (said he) it is a very common thing in China: we put the female children out of the way, to save the trouble of bringing them up; some people have smothered five or six daughters." My horror was increased by his continued indifference, and the lightness with which such crimes are perpetrated in China with impunity, which must be the case, when they are related without fear of detection, as the common occurrences of life. I felt that I had a murderer by my side, who must without repentance inevitably perish. I told him plainly that he had committed a most dreadful sin, and that he was in danger of eter-

nal wrath. Though I said this with the greatest seriousness and earnestness, at first he only laughed, and it was sometime before he would acknowledge that he had done wrong; however, afterwards he seemed to feel a little concerned, and I hope affected. What an awful view does this present of the "Celestial Empire," loaded with crime, deluged with blood, and ripe for destruction!

ALABAMA.

A letter from the Rev. James A. Ranaldson, dated Dec. 14th, states, that there are in Alabama, *ninety-eight* Baptist churches, *five* associations, *fifty-five* ordained Baptist ministers, and *eleven* licentiates; *ten* Presbyterian ministers, *eighteen* Methodist ditto, in the circuits of this and the adjacent parts of other States; *one* Episcopalian, *one* Seceder, and *one* Roman Catholic.

Mr. Ranaldson was on a Missionary tour, and in his visits to the several associations, enjoyed much satisfaction in observing the increase of a missionary spirit. "Strange!", he exclaims, "that there should be found any opposition to missions in a Christian land! Prodigious, that any one, who knows the joyful sound, should oppose the most noble cause that ever engaged the heart of man!"

Col. Star.

From the Christian Watchman.

Extract of a letter from Rev. H. J. Ripley, to Rev. L. Bolles, of Salem, dated Bryan County, Geo. Jan. 9, 1823.

DEAR SIR—

There has been an unusual attention to "the best things," in Liberty County, since the last of Oct. My time has been very variously occupied; and my northern friends, though they have shared in my thoughts and prayers, yet have received but few letters from me. Our revival commenced at the closing scene of a camp-meeting, which was very generally attended. A two days' meeting, not long after, deepened the convictions of those who had been already awakened, and produced seriousness, in many, who had never thought much of their souls. Between this time and the meeting of the Sunbury Baptist Association at my meeting-house, several were thought to have experienced religion. I arrived in the County the day before the Association met. There was constant preaching in the meeting-house, while the members of the Association were transacting their business in the vestry.—Good was done during the meeting. The next week, a three days' meeting was attended in Sunbury; and the next, another such meeting at the Congregational house in Liberty. A three days' meeting has since been attended in Sunbury. I fear there is not so much engagedness in many, as there was two months since; the people live so far apart, that it is very inconvenient to have frequent meetings, or for a minister to visit families much.—Sunbury is a village; and the people there, having excellent opportunities for public and social worship, remain in a very happy and profitable state of mind. Several new cases of awakenings have lately occurred there.

Considering the small number of our white population, we have enjoyed a great work. Persons of all ages, and almost all habits, have shared in it.—Perhaps the work may not have been thorough in every one, who may have appeared promising. I have trembled, as well as rejoiced; and you may well suppose I should feel unpleasantly, when I have heard of some who wished to be untied with the church, before they thought themselves Christians. I speak not of the Baptist Churches. But we must expect causes for jealousy as well as joy.—There have been two seasons of baptising since the awakening; at the former of which brother Screven baptized 15 whites and 8 blacks; at the latter, he baptized 9 whites and 17 blacks, and I baptized 3 whites and 5 blacks. I have now one white candidate and 4 blacks; besides 20 or more blacks, who are passing a course of examination. In addition, 31 have been received into the Congregational society. Appearances among the slaves are very encouraging; my meeting-house cannot contain all who wish to attend. Oh may multitudes of them be made the Lord's freemen. I have had occasion to think of a remark made by you: "When a mi-

nister is most desponding, and most full of fears, that his word will be a saviour of death, he may be sowing seed soon to spring up."

My health is good. I feel quite at home; and my attachment to this people is much strengthened. Since my return, I trust God has blessed my feeble efforts. Oh how sweet to labour for so good a master. Yours, &c.

H. J. RIPLEY.

From the Christian Watchman.

The British and foreign School Society are progressing in labours of usefulness. They are doing much good in preparing masters and mistresses to take the direction of new schools. Six masters and four mistresses are now supported in whole or in part from the funds of the institution; and ten others are studying at their own expense. A master has lately sailed for the Mauritius, and another will proceed to Lisbon; and in the month of June, a mistress departed for Calcutta.

The Christian Researches in the Mediterranean, by the Rev. W. Jowetts, lately published, are said to "contain much curious and important intelligence, improving to the minds of those who feel interested in the scenes of scripture history." Mr. Jowett was employed five years by the Church Missionary Society; and the objects of the labour proposed to him were—the acquisition of information as to Christian knowledge, by the press, by the journeys, and by education. He resided chiefly in Malta, but visited also Corfu, Greece, and Egypt. Much intelligence is communicated as to the state of Christians, Jews, and Mahomedans round this internal sea.

Designation of a Missionary.—On the 23d Sept. the Baptist Missionary Society in London designated the Rev. Thomas Knibb as an assistant missionary with the Rev. Mr. Coultart, at the station of Kingston, Jamaica. The Rev. Drs. Byland and Rippon, with several others of different denominations, took parts in the public exercises, and Mr. Knibb preached on the occasion. The season was highly interesting, and a collection was taken of 75 dollars for the mission. In addition to preaching, as may appear to be duty, Mr. Knibb is to take the direction of a free school, lately established at Kingston. He embarked with his wife, Oct. 30.

An auxiliary Bible Society, formed in Lincolnton, N. C. has recently published its first annual report. It has distributed in the past year 110 Bibles, and 74 Testaments, and during the same period, 2 life, and 73 annual subscribers have been received. In reference to the certain progress of the Bible, and the folly of opposition, this Report observes: "He who would attempt to arrest the progress of Bible Societies, would be attempting to stop the moral machinery of the world, and might expect nothing else than to be crushed by its formidable columns, which under the direction of divine truth are bearing down on the territories of death."

A society was formed in Charleston, S. C. on the 3rd ult, for the purpose of promoting the gospel among seamen.

Accounts from New-Bedford, state, that there is an extensive revival in the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist societies in that town.

Georgia Baptist Association.

We have just received the minutes of this Association, which was held at Bethel, Hancock county, Oct. 10, 11, 12 and 13. The Association embraces 37 churches, containing 2908 members. 140 have been added by baptism the last year, and 99 by letter. Dismissed 145, excommunicated 51, restored 16, dead 50. The Association resolved to appropriate its donations to the Columbian College, to the education of pious young men called by the Spirit of God and by the churches to the ministry.—The Mission Board made a report, by which it appears, that the projected mission among the Creek nation, is not yet in full operation, though prospects are now favourable. The Rev. Lee Compere, who was appointed missionary, is with his family at Eatonton, ready to enter on the mission as soon as prac-

ticable. The Board have voted \$100 to be sent to the Treasurer of the Convention. The sum of \$113 has been contributed, the last year, for the Columbian College; and about \$500 for other missionary purposes. The Association appointed the Friday before the first Sabbath in May, 1823, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer for a revival of religion. The next Association will meet at Sharon, Columbia county, on Friday, before the 2d Lord's day in Oct. 1823. The circular letter, written by the Rev. W. S. Brantley, is on the subject of "the causes of decline in religion, and on the means of a revival." This letter we shall present to the readers of the Star.

Col. Star.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Good behaviour of the slaves. "It is exceedingly gratifying, [says Mr. Evans, a missionary in South Africa.] to hear the excellent character which their masters and mistresses give of the slaves which have been baptized. One gentleman, five of whose slaves I have baptized, said that he wished the society had been established many years before, for since his slaves have been instructed, he has not had the least trouble with them. Before, he was obliged to stay this wine cellar from morning to evening, when the slaves were working there, and even then he had the mortification to see that they got drunk; but since that time, not only those who have been baptized, but other slaves, having respect for their advice and example, are so improved, that he has not seen one of them intoxicated for the last sixteen months, and he can leave the cellar at any time, under their charge. He also told us that it is delightful to see them in the evening, teaching each other to read, singing hymns, and having family worship together. Many others have given a similar testimony, even some who were formerly inimical to the instruction of their slaves."

PEACE SOCIETIES.

Among the subordinate instruments employed to effect the moral convalescence of our race, we must not overlook Peace Societies. They have now been in operation for several years; and have given evidence of their capacity to accomplish extensive good. The Massachusetts Peace Society and its auxiliaries, have distributed gratuitously the past year, 13,346 copies of the Friend of Peace, and smaller tracts; 3296 copies have been paid.—About 1500 copies have been sent to foreign states.

The Peace Society of Great-Britain, according to their 5th Report, have printed 219,150 tracts—the sales and distributions for the preceding year had amounted to 22,000 copies. One of their Reports and two of their Tracts have been translated into French. Their receipts in one year had amounted to nearly \$1800.

The "Society of Christian Morals" in France, is noticed as promising good to the cause of Peace.—It has been sanctioned by government, and embraces men of high rank. A duke is its President, and several of the nobility are among its officers. One of its avowed objects is the promotion of pacific sentiments.

The Boston Recorder speaks with feeling and force on the subject.

"If the day is approaching when the 'King of Peace' shall reign from sea to sea, and from the river to ends of the earth; if God will condescend to use human instrumentality at all in the accomplishment of this event; and if it be according to the constitution of the divine government that the minds of men shall be enlightened, in order to the proper regulation of their hearts and conduct, then we conceive it must be admitted that Peace Societies are entitled to countenance and efficient support, because it is their great object, by the publication of suitable Tracts, to open the eyes of the world on the nefariousness of that system of human butchery, which had filled the earth from the beginning with wretchedness and wo. Surely blood has flowed long enough. Men have acted in the spirit of devils incarnate long enough. Every well wisher to Zion—every friend to human happiness—every man that has a single chord in his heart that can vibrate to the shrieks of distress issuing from the field of war, or from the cottage of the widowed mother,

looking with the agony of grief on her orphan children, ought to be the declared friend and active supporter of peace societies—that he may be instrumental in dispelling the illusions of honour and glory with which the Great Adversary has covered his loved “carnival of death.”

Star.

COLUMBIAN COLLEGE.

The visit of Professor Woods, of this institution, to England, for the purpose of obtaining donations to its funds, promises to be successful. The Missionary Register for November says, “Professor Woods is now in London, and has received the cordial support of Lord Gambier, Lord Teignmouth, the Bishop of Durham, the Earl of Bristol, Lord Calthorpe, Mr. Wilberforce, and other distinguished persons, and of liberal friends of various denominations.”

MISCELLANEOUS.

A PLEA FOR MISSIONS.

Should any one attempt to exonerate himself from the support of missionaries, or to depreciate the importance of their object, by asserting that savages are more blest in their native forest, and derive more exquisite happiness from the bow and chase, than they could enjoy in the refined walks of cultivation; let him visit their nightly orgies and see them dancing in concert to the shrieks of a fellow being expiring at the stake; and say, is this a happiness to be envied? Passing by a catalogue of crimes too degrading to be recited—too shocking for sensibility to contemplate—let us visit India, the garden of the world—the land where nature has painted her richest scenery and dispensed her blessings with a liberal hand, and what do we find indicative of rational happiness? We want not the aid of fancy’s glowing colours to paint a mourning scene and harrow up your feelings with an exhibition of fictitious woe. Go to the banks of the Ganges and count the hecatombs of human victims that daily choke its stream. View the countless skeletons that lie unburied on the shores which whiten in the sun, tainting the spicy gale with stench and pestilence.—See on that funeral pile a widowed mother self-devoted to the flames, dooming her helpless offspring to double orphanage—to beggary and death! There behold, crushed by an idol’s ponderous car, the mutilated body of a youth—the last solace of declining age, who wiped the falling tear from a father’s slightless eyes and smoothed the passage to his last repose. Hear the distracting shrieks of yonder babe, clinging to the bosom of its expiring mother, whom vultures make their prey ere her vitals cease to palpitate with life. View this, ye who yet cherish in your hearts the generous feelings of humanity, and while your blood recoils at the soul chilling horrors of the scene, let your liberality swell that stream of charity which alone can wash away its stains.

Ye ardent youths, who trim the midnight lamp, and toil for endless fame, be it your ambition to rekindle upon classic ground, the long extinguished torch of science. Emulate the Apostolic zeal of Fisk who is now replanting the standard of the cross in the land of Solomon. Of his lamented colleague who in the spirit of Elijah, took his upward flight from the hill of Calvary.

Sons of enlightened freedom, pour into the bosom of degraded Africa the oil and wine to cicatrize the wounds avarice has made by the accursed instrument of slavery. Friends of humanity, let pity for the heathen world, bleeding under the pressure of crimes and miseries which set description at defiance, move you to aid the arm of mercy which is now extended to rescue millions of our race from a cruel and untimely fate, and from the unutterable horrors of a second death. Ye highly favoured parents, whose eyes fill with the tenderness of bliss while duteous children sport around you in all the innocence of infantile simplicity; we plead for parents, who, by idolatry’s infuriating zeal, forget the ties that bind them to their offspring, tear from the breast the lisping infant, and cast it to the monsters of the deep?

Ye fair daughters of Columbia, to whom philanthropy cannot appeal in vain, compassionate your sisters in the land of darkness who are doomed to drudgery and servitude or made the degraded ministers of pleasure to unfeeling tyrants. Rescue them from their degradation, restore them to the dignity of their sex, and read the record of your benevolence in the retributions of eternity.

Ev. and Lit. Mag.

RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPERS.

A Letter to the Publisher of the Christian Watchman, dated at the Columbian College, Washington, Jan. 30, 1823, contains the following just remarks:

“It affords me pleasure to think of the good which it [the Watchman] is likely to do, and which I trust it already has done. There is no calculating the influence of such publications. Like the leaven in the meal, their effects are gradually spreading all around. They are not only calculated to enlighten and improve the minds of the people, but by diffusing religious intelligence, they excite and fan a missionary spirit, and thus become important auxiliaries in the spreading of the Gospel of Christ.

The press, I conceive to be among the most powerful means employed for illuminating and evangelizing the world. Considering the subject in this light, it is a matter of regret and astonishment, that christians do not feel more interested in religious periodical publications—that they do not feel it to be their duty to help, support and extend their circulation. Nor should they think by doing this that they are merely doing a favour to the publisher or proprietor of the publication;—they are doing a far greater favour to the cause of Christ.”

Fear is implanted in us as a preservative from evil; and its duty is, not to overbear reason, but to assist it. Nor should it be suffered to tyrannize over the imagination, to raise phantoms of horror or to beset life with supernumerary distresses.

He is the wise man, who knows how to govern his passions and affections. Our passions are our infirmities. He that can make a sacrifice of his will, is lord of himself.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

Revival of Religion in the Baptist Society of Wilbraham and Monson.

This Society had been favoured with frequent tokens of Divine mercy, but their saving effects, from time to time, were confined to a few individuals.—No general revival had been realized, for fifteen years; the two last of which, had been peculiarly trying. The want of spirituality and consistency, among professors of religion, operated to quiet the unbelieving in their sins; and the sound, Lo here! where the King of Zion was not seen, diverted the attention of the multitude, from their soul’s immediate concern. In vain, to human appearance, did the warning voice resound from the sacred desk; the impenitent did not see the danger to which they were exposed, and a general torpor seemed to brood over the church of God. If there were those who sighed and cried for the abominations of the times, yet their cries, with few exceptions, were known only to the Searcher of hearts.

But the indefatigable zeal, and persevering labours in the gospel ministry, have, at length, been owned and blessed of God. Some favourable appearances were discovered, the latter part of last summer, while attending upon the ordinary means of religious instruction. Meetings, for prayer and conversation, were soon held in different places, but a degree of backwardness characterized every such meeting, till late in October; at one of these, while some anxious souls were present, a solemnity, approaching to that of the judgment day, seized upon every mind. It was solemn, affecting, and alarming. From this time the religious tone was rapidly changing. Instead of the impeding complaint, The time has not come that the Lord’s spiritual house should be builded, the language of the pious, seemed virtually to be, Surely the Lord is in this place. Meet-

ings became more frequent, until almost every evening of the week was occupied, in one part or another of the Society. A lecture was usually delivered, calculated to enlighten the understanding, alarm the conscience, and direct the sin-sick soul to the Great Physician. Some short exhortations, and occasional remarks, frequently followed.

People of all ages and classes, have been excited to attend meetings, more frequently than usual; but to the youth, of both sexes, it has been truly a day of salvation. Between 30 and 40 have manifested a hope, that they have passed from death unto life, since the commencement of this revival; and some are still labouring, under the burden of sin. Ten, who, on examination, have given clear evidence of their union to Christ, have been baptized by elder A. Bennett, and united to the church, under his pastoral care. Others appear desirous of following our Lord’s example, but wish to proceed with caution.

This excitement, evidently the work of an invisible and Omnipotent hand, by promoting a spirit of serious inquiry, and careful investigation, has developed the native turpitude of the heart, and laid the haughty imaginations in the dust; where the forlorn have found the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. Those who before were outwardly regular in their deportment, now speak of their former lives, as a continual course of sin, and wonder that the forbearance of God should endure so long, and, especially, that his grace should, at length, reach and renew their polluted souls. Thus, the languid hopes have been revived, the backslider has been reclaimed, and, by mutual confession and forgiveness, the germ of discord has been blasted, and the united songs of Zion, have sweetly refreshed the heritage of our God. J. S.

Feb. 1823.

FOR THE CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

Messrs. Editors,

Not long since, as I was passing through the town of —, on a mission to L. it was reported that a revival of religion had just commenced, and that Mr. —, a student who was a native of — Mass. was to conduct the conference that evening. I was desirous of attending, as I had frequently known of great blessings attending his preaching. At the hour appointed, a large audience convened. After the meeting had been opened with prayer, the young man arose and addressed first, the infidel, and in that powerful and convincing manner, which not only disarmed him of argument, but even of courage to act in self defence. A number who came on purpose to oppose this young speaker, were soon found weeping under the weight of their sin, and in the greatest agony of soul. In the next place, he addressed himself to those who were fixed in the belief that a good moral life would save them, and to those who had never met with that great change of heart which is to pass from death unto life. Addressing himself to them, he says—Some of my audience are what is called, good moral characters, but you have within you hard and impenitent hearts, which, if not renewed, will sink you to the bottomless pit; and although highly esteemed by your friends, you are regarded by God as the most detestable rebels. For the sin of impenitence is not a small crime, but the greatest one you can possibly commit. For he who will not accept of Christ now, surely would not had he lived in the days of the Jews; nay, he would have raised his ungodly voice, and cried out Crucify! crucify! You, says he, who are so righteous in your own opinion, are, I fear, in as imminent danger, as those infidels in yonder seat, sleeping in the suburbs of hell. To prove it, I will give you a simile. We will suppose that the inhabitants of this town rebelled against the laws of a just and righteous sovereign, and committed a crime worthy of death. The offended sovereign came with a mighty army, sufficient to crush every rebel, and sat down before the town; and just as he was about to execute the awful sentence, his only beloved son,

whose heart overflowed with pity, presented himself, and requested the privilege of suffering, and of suffering too, in the presence of his army, that these wretched rebels might have the offers of life; provided they would repent. The emperor accepted the terms, and a prince of royal blood suffered for criminals. A message of mercy is now presented to these guilty, condemned inhabitants. The herald enters their town, and says—If you will repent of your conduct, and become obedient subjects, in the name of your mighty Prince, I promise you not only forgiveness, free forgiveness, but a seat on the throne of your sovereign, heirs to his inheritance. O what joy might this messenger expect to see beaming in the countenance of these wicked criminals, when such an offer is made them. But what must be his surprise, when he sees they neither regard him nor his proposal. Indeed, they treat him as though the subject was not worthy their attention or decision. The messenger goes from house to house, and follows individuals, and entreats them to tell him whether they will accept of these terms. He demands an answer, but they cast upon him their contempt, by taking no notice of all these earnest entreaties! What, therefore, shall this sovereign do? You all with one voice exclaim—“Punishment for the rebels.” But stop, thou who hast never yet been born again, thou moralist, for thou art the man. Thou hast imitated the conduct of this rebellious town, and thou hast poured contempt on the Holy Ghost whilst it has been following thee from day to day. O sinner, prepare to meet thy God, for soon the great volume of accounts, the black catalogue of thy crimes, will be footed up by the recording angel. O if there is an impenitent soul in this room, I would not place my soul in your soul's stead a single moment for thousands of worlds. For that moment the brittle thread of my existence might be burnt asunder by the fire of God's wrath. No—for I can do without the treasures of this world, without its honours and pleasures, but I cannot do without an interest in Christ, I cannot endure the gnawings of a guilty conscience, and the flames of that fire which shall never be quenched.

The spirit of God accompanied his words.—The results were great and glorious. Infidels, Universalists, and Moralists together, bathed their heads in tears. I left the town the next morning, and went on my way, rejoicing that God was preparing the youth of the age to be champions of the cross.

An Itinerant Missionary.

RELIGIOUS SUMMARY.

Professor A. Woods has succeeded beyond his most sanguine expectations in collecting funds for the Baptist college in the city of Washington, since he has been in Europe.—We understand that Mr. A. Gleason, from Hartford city, a young man on his way to join the mission at Mayhew, under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners, passed through Washington lately, was in good health and spirits—had attended many meetings on the way, formed many missionary societies, and we trust been abundantly instrumental while on his journey, of advancing the cause of his Divine Redeemer. From a pious physician in Hadley, Mass. I learn that the reformation increases in Southampton and Westhampton, and appears to be commencing again in South Hadley and Northampton. In Hadley, between twenty and thirty trust that they have been brought from nature to grace. In Norwich also, the revival is very interesting. In Royalston a revival has recently commenced, and is spreading rapidly through the town, and we sincerely hope that it will be extensive and powerful in the neighbouring towns in that vic-

nity, which so much needed it. The American Society for ameliorating the condition of the Jews is daily becoming more interesting. Mr. Frey, an agent of the Society, succeeds beyond our most sanguine expectations. We rejoice to hear Christians speaking peaceable things to the scattered tribes of Israel. The ameliorating society publishes a monthly work respecting the Jews, entitled *Israel's Advocate*, price one dollar per annum. John P. Haven, editor, No. 182 Broadway, New-York. *Communicated.*
New-Jersey, Feb. 1823.

THE CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

HARTFORD, February 22, 1823.

A very pleasing revival of religion is now progressing in the Baptist Society of Ashford and Willington, under the pastoral care of Rev. E. Skinner. A more particular account we hope we shall receive soon for publication. We also learn that some favourable appearances are realized at Westfield, Mass.

MARRIED—In East Hartford, Mr. Joseph A. Roberts, to Miss Mabel Roberts.
In Middletown, Mr. Ebenezer Markham to Miss Phebe Banks. Mr. Oliver Newton to Miss Sarah Ward.
In Norwich, Mr. Thomas Patterson, of Vernon, to Miss Charlotte Tift.
In East Haddam, Capt. Samuel Tyler, of Haddam, to Miss Bethia Randall.
In Ridgefield, Mr. Matthew Keeler, to Miss Sally Smith.
In Washington city, Hon. Samuel Campbell, member of the House of Representatives, from New-York, to Miss Maria Regina Queen, of Washington.

DIED—In this city, Mrs. Julia, wife of Mr. William R. Ellsworth, aged 24, and daughter of Mr. Silas Wells.—Mrs. Mary Caldwell, relict of Mr. Charles Caldwell, aged 89.
In Chatham, Mrs. Celia Brown, wife of Mr. Horace Brown, aged 19.
In Milford, Mrs. Julia Strong, wife of Mr. Selah Strong, aged 28.
At Newbury Court House, S. C. Mr. Uriah Griffin, of Saybrook, in this state.
In Philadelphia, Mr. Samuel Relf, editor of the *Philadelphia Gazette*.
At the Little River, near Quebec, on the 7th instant, Jean Baptiste Silvestre, in the 105th year of his age. He had the use of his mental faculties, and kept his bodily strength, until within a very few weeks of his death.

Selected from the Southern Intelligencer.

WRITTEN IN A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD.

“It is good for us to be here—let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.”—Matt. xvi. 4.

Methinks it is good to be here;
If thou wilt, let us build—but for whom?
Nor Elias nor Moses appear,
But the shadows of eve that encircle the tomb.

Shall we build to ambition? ah no!
Afflicted, he shrinketh away;
For see, they would fix him below,
In a small narrow cave and begirt with cold clay,
To the meanest of reptiles a peer, and a prey.

To beauty? ah no! she forgets
The charms which she wielded before—
Nor knows the foul worm that he frets,
The skin which but yesterday fools could adore,
For the smoothness it held, or the tint which it wore.

Shall we build to the temple of pride,
The trappings which dizen the proud?
Alas! they are all laid aside—
And here's neither dress nor adornment allow'd,
But the long winding sheet, & the fringe, & the shroud.

To the pleasures which mirth can afford—
The revel, the laugh, and the jeer?
Ah! here is a plentiful board—
But the guests are all mute as their pitiful cheer,
And none but the worm is a reveller here!

Unto death, to whom monarchs must bow?
Ah no! for his empire is known,
And here there are trophies enow,
Beneath the cold dead, and around, the dark stone,
Are the signs of a sceptre that none may disown.

The first tabernacle to Hope we will build,
And look for the sleepers around us to rise;
The second to Faith which ensures it fulfill'd,
And the third to the Lamb of the great sacrifice,
Who bequeath'd us them both when he died.

MIRIAM.

SUMMARY.

By the arrival at New York, of the brig *Radius*, Granger, 22 days from Matanzas, we learn that two vessels supposed to be Americans, had been captured sixteen miles west of Matanzas, by pirates, and burnt, with some of the crews tied in the rigging. The Americans had been attacked in the streets of Matanzas, by the pirates—and several of them drove into the river. Capt. Colver, of the schr. *William and Henry*, was near being killed by a stone thrown at him from the custom-house. Capt. Gardner was struck with a stone, and Capt. Blinn, and several other masters, were stoned and otherwise insulted. *Am. Sentinel.*

BOSTON, Feb. 15.

High-handed Villany.—The brig *Essex*, Davis, of Gloucester, from St. Thomas, for New-Orleans, with a cargo of coffee, wine, salt, &c. was captured on the 18th of Dec. last, in sight of Porto Rico, by a piratical vessel, carried into Mayaguez, and condemned, vessel and cargo!

Pirates in Cuba.—The pirates are as thick as ever along the coast and on shore, so that people cannot walk along the streets without being knocked down and robbed. It was thought they went to take the U. S. schr. *Grampus*, as there was on the 13th of January, at night, a number of boats, full of men; when they were discovered by the *Grampus*, which directly beat to quarters; when all the boats retreated for the shore, without doing any damage.

Fire.—The Meredith cotton and woollen manufactory, at Meredith, N. H. was burnt on Friday last. One of the girls leaped from a window of the third story, and was killed. About two-thirds of the factory was the property of Daniel Avery.

The schooner *Monroe*, Horton, from New-London, was cast away the 6th inst. near Southold (L. I.) went to pieces, and the cargo lost. Two of the crew were drowned. Capt. H. was washed overboard, but gained the shore nearly exhausted. Mr. Edmund Cary, the mate, was very badly frozen, but is likely to recover.

Intemperance.—According to the official reports from both cities, it seems that in London, during the year 1822, there were but FOUR deaths from intemperance, with a population of thirteen hundred thousand; and in the city of New-York, with a population of only one-tenth of that number, the deaths from the same cause were FORTY-FOUR.

Late Fires.—In Scotland, Windham, the carpenter's shop of Mr. Ezra Lillie, containing all his tools, together with much other property, was destroyed by fire a few days since.

Two school houses, in Windham county, have lately been burnt; one was in Mansfield, and the other in Windham.—*Advocate.*

The sloop *Julia-Ann*, of this port, was cast away on Black Point, on Friday night last. The cargo, consisting of cheese, potatoes, &c. was principally saved. *ib.*

From the Connecticut Courant, Feb. 13.

By wills lately proved and recorded in the Probate Office in the district of Hebron, the following Legacies are given for the uses and purposes therein expressed, viz.

By Miss Betsey Pratt, late of Bolton, deceased, to the New Haven Education Society, a residuary legacy, amounting to the sum of about 250 dollars now due.

By David Hale, Esq. late of Coventry, deceased, to the Connecticut Missionary Society, 100 dollars, payable within two years after his decease.—To the New Haven Education Society, 100 dollars, payable within four years, and to the American Board of Commissioners, 100 dollars, payable within six years after his decease.

By the Hon. Jesse Root, late of Coventry, deceased, to the Connecticut Bible Society, 40 dollars, to the American Bible Society, 50 dollars, to the Foreign Mission Society, 50 dollars, all payable within one year after his decease, with interest after six months.

By Rev. Philander Parmelee, late of Bolton, deceased, to Cornwall School for the education of heathen youth, the principal part of his library, appraised at more than 300 dollars.—One third of his real estate, which is to be sold, and the avails placed on interest, for the use of his widow, during her life; remainder to said Cornwall School, for the education of heathen youth for the gospel ministry. Real estate appraised at 1700 dollars.

Population of Calcutta.—The whole population of Calcutta is found, by a late accurate estimate, to be 179,917. Besides these, who are residents, there are about 100,000 who daily enter and depart from this city. About 13,000 of the inhabitants are nominal Christians, 40,000 Mahometans, and 118,000 Hindoos. The number of premises in Calcutta is about 67,000, of which 15,000 are tiled huts. The city is five and a half miles in length, and one and a half in breadth. It is supposed that the city is decreasing, both in wealth and population.

LEGHORN, Dec. 6.

Several vessels which left Malta and Egypt a short time ago, lately arrived in our harbour. They bring no interesting news, but they say it is not true that the Viceroy of Egypt is dead.